

# First Steel Heat Poured Here Nearly 37 Years Ago

Still doing business at the same old stand here is one of the city's pioneer industries, the Torrance Works of the Columbia-Geneva Division, United States Steel. The long-titled firm is known throughout the Southland and

both galvanized and plain. General superintendent of the plant is D. E. Rice. Harlow Dotson is the assistant superintendent; Don Hyde, supervisor of industrial relations; F. E. Scheliga, rolling mill superintendent; M. F. Sahli, sheet mill super-

tendent; C. S. Warner, maintenance; and Paul Watson, superintendent of production planning. The material turned out at the Torrance plant, which was established here in 1913, is used throughout Southern California in stoves, heaters, washing machines, agricultural implements, and others. The plant is on 164 acres and it has 12 acres under roof. Four

open hearth furnaces supply the basic steel to the plant. The local steel firm has been a leader in the fight to control smog, and was one of the first steel mills in the nation to install electrostatic precipitators to take the smog-producing residue out of the tall stacks of the buildings, bridges, refrigerators, open hearth furnaces. Industrialists from all over

the world now stop by the U.S. Steel open hearth furnaces here to check their amazing results; for air pollution—in addition to replacing weather as a topic of discussion in the Los Angeles area—is always an important problem in manufacturing and the successful experiment at the Torrance mill will be a milestone in the battle to rid smoke-

of impurities. The first heat of steel from the mill was poured here in December, 1916, after construction was started on the plant in 1913. During the following year a foundry was added for making marine castings for the Navy during World War I. In 1923, Columbia steel acquired the mill from the Lewellyn brothers who had built it and immediately added the third and fourth open hearths. The equipment of the Pacific Sheet Steel Co. in San Francisco was purchased in 1926 and moved to Torrance. In February, 1930, the US Steel Corp. bought the Columbia assets, and it has continued since that time as a subsidiary of the huge steel company.



**CHRISTMAS REHEARSAL...** Members of Longren Aircraft Associates Club and members of the Children's Baptist Home of Southern California meet to discuss plans for a gala Christmas party in December. Back row, left to right, are Mrs. Golda Beight, president of Longren Associates; Mrs. Gladys Edwards, of the Children's home; and Jack Doyle, Longren plant manager. Front row are Cheryl Ann Koch, Eddie Baumgartner, Eva Alex, and Dancan Dreisel. (Al Frederic Photo)

## Longren Associates Plan Christmas for Children

Happy smiling faces reflect members hope to establish the Christmas Party for the children of the Home as a yearly traditional event. The children will travel to the Longren Plant in Torrance via special bus call the "Longren Christmas Caravan." Upon arriving there, they will be entertained in the afternoon along with the children of the Longren Associates Club Members. Christmas gifts and other Yuletide festivities have been planned for the party. The Children's Baptist Home located on a 10-acre site at 7715 S. Victoria Ave. in Inglewood, of 84 children.

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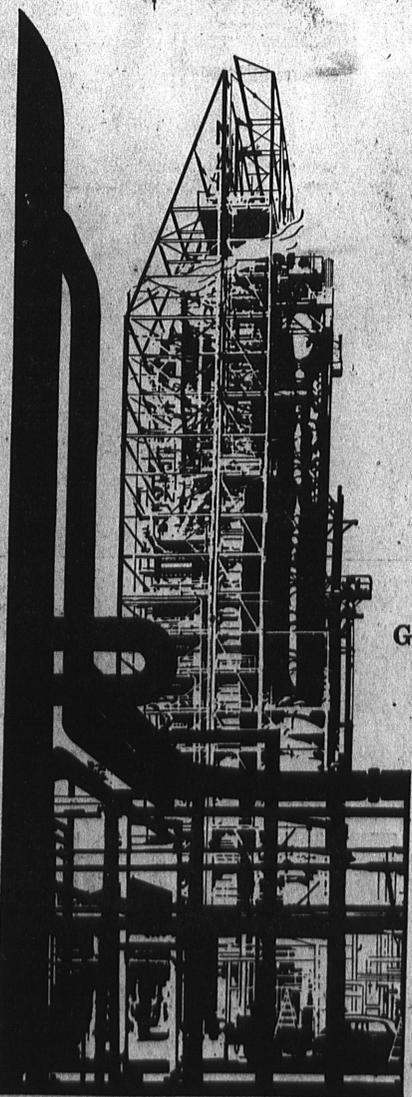
# Growth with a purpose...

Since its founding 41 years ago, Torrance has been hailed not just as a city of growth, but of growth — with a purpose.

With its refineries, factories, foundries, and other industrial plants, Torrance has been a center of industry, its progress closely paralleling the growth of the entire West.

Its population growth has made Torrance a community with real civic pride, and this is reflected in the fine homes, schools, and churches which serve the needs of its citizens.

General Petroleum, as one of the pioneer members of the Torrance community, is proud to have had a share in this growth. Like all others who live and work in Torrance, we are looking forward to the coming years with eagerness and anticipation.



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